

~~TOP SECRET - LIMIT DISTRIBUTION~~

There are 23 Soviet ships believed to be enroute to Cuba. Three of these (2 cargo ships and 1 tanker) probably will be in the blockade zone on 24 October. The remaining 20 ships (15 cargo, 4 tankers, 1 passenger) are further East.

Fourteen of the ships have been involved in urgent radio communication with Moscow since early 23 October. There is no evidence as yet however that any of them have changed course as a result of recent developments.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CIC/MR

REVIEWED by AB Hawley

DATE 2/16/88

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